

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the third full paragraph on page 9 as follows:

FIG. 5 indicates how the back cover 106, is engaged with the baton holder 101 to begin installation. The back cover 106 is slowly moved in the direction of arrow A, at a slight angle with respect to the baton holder 101, to bring the tab 110 proximate to and touching the entry end of the slot 111. FIG. 6 depicts the subsequent application of a parallel force, in the direction of arrow B, to ensure that the tab 110 is fully engaged within the slot 111. Installation of the back cover 106 to the baton holder ~~440~~ 101 is then completed (FIG. 1) with the addition of the screws 108 through the openings 107 provided.

Please amend the last two full paragraphs on page 10 as follows:

The insert 112 is held in place by the tightening force of the screws 702 against the outer surface of the loop 109. To change the position of the insert 112 along the loop 109, first the screws 702 are loosened from engagement with the slots 113. Then the position of the insert 112 can be adjusted along the length of the slots 113. Once the insert 112 is in a position to accommodate the width of a particular belt 701, the screws 702 are tightened against the slots 113, thereby positioning the insert 112 in the desired position. This ensures a snug fit between the belt 701 and the loop 109, and minimizes slippage. Also, as shown in FIG's. 7 and 8, the screws 702 in the slots 113 extending through the insert 112 are all within the periphery of the loop 109 of the attachment assembly 105 so as not to create an obstruction to other items that may be mounted on the belt 701.

Washers, although not illustrated in the drawings, may be provided on the screws 702 to help ensure a tight fit of the screws 702 against the slots 113 and maintain the tightening force of the screws. For example, number 3 internal tooth lock washers can be used with the screws ~~7028~~. 702. Preferably, although not required, when such washers are used, they are first placed on the screws 702 during manufacture, following which threading is added to the screws 702. This prevents the washer and the screw from being separated, and guarantees that any benefit provided by the washer in terms of tightness is not lost.

Please amend the paragraph bridging pages 11 and 12 as follows:

To secure the attachment assembly 105 and the back cover 106 together, and to ensure proper facing engagement of the plurality of protuberances 116 and recesses 115, a post 117 is integrally formed in the attachment assembly 105, centrally disposed within the radially arranged protuberances 116. An opening 118 is provided in the back cover 106, once again centrally disposed with respect to the radially arranged plurality of recesses 115. The post 117 is inserted through the opening 118, and a spring washer or wave washer 119, preferably formed from spring steel, is applied over the post 117, and in contact with an interior surface of the back cover 106. To ensure a proper bias that will maintain adequate operational facing engagement of the protuberances 116 and recesses 115, two wave washers 119 may be used.

Please amend the last paragraph on page 13 as follows:

In practice, a raised, rectangular extension portion 126 is integrally formed in the baton holder 101. The interior of this rectangular extension 126 accommodate the wave washers 119 and fastener 120 that hold carrier 100 together. In addition, an elongated, preferably rectangular opening 127 is formed in the interior wall of the holder 101. This opening 127 is designed to accommodate a spring plate or baton securing element 122 that is intended to engage a baton 103 that has been inserted into the holder 101. Preferably, the baton securing element 122 is ~~a spring~~ an elongate spring plate that is suitably bent for the purpose, and including an opening 128 disposed near one end. As can be seen in FIG. 4, the opening 128 engages a post 123 that is integrally formed in the holder 101. The baton securing element 122 is thus retained in a desired position, extending into the opening 127 in the holder 101. FIG. 8 illustrates, in section view, the final positions of the various components of the baton carrier 100 after assembly.